
HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 4028

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Representatives Wallace and Hasegawa

Read first time 01/22/08. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
5 COMMISSION:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
8 represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission is an independent
10 United States government agency, directly responsible to Congress; and

11 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission is charged with
12 regulating interstate and international communications by radio,
13 television, wire, satellite, and cable and has jurisdiction over the
14 fifty states, the District of Columbia, and United States possessions;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission on December 18,
17 2007, delivered a decision amending newspaper-broadcast cross-ownership
18 rules to allow a newspaper to own one television station or one radio
19 station in the twenty largest markets in the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission ignored repeated
2 pleas of the American people and their representatives in Congress to
3 defer their newspaper-broadcast cross-ownership decision and conduct a
4 more inclusive process before amending the rules; and

5 WHEREAS, The members of the United States Congress, in a
6 nonpartisan manner, through the Media Ownership Act, seek to overturn
7 all Federal Communications Commission decisions relating to
8 newspaper-broadcast cross-ownership made after October 1, 2007, to set
9 new standards for the Federal Communications Commission to be more
10 responsive to public input in their decision making, and to provide for
11 more opportunities for people of color and women to own media outlets;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Washington State Legislature condemns the Federal
14 Communications Commission decision to expand newspaper-broadcast
15 cross-ownership and the process that the Federal Communications
16 Commission followed to deliver their decision;

17 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the United
18 States Congress work in a nonpartisan manner to pass the Media
19 Ownership Act that overturns Federal Communications Commission
20 decisions after October 1, 2007, ensures that future Federal
21 Communications Commission regulatory processes are open to and
22 inclusive of the American people, and provides improved opportunities
23 for people of color and women to participate as media outlet owners.

24 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
25 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
26 States, the Federal Communications Commission Chairman Kevin J. Martin,
27 Commissioners Michael J. Copps, Jonathan S. Adelstein, Deborah Taylor
28 Tate, and Robert M. McDowell, the President of the United States
29 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of
30 Congress from the State of Washington.

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